

1-28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim 36 28 wherein said expandable device comprises a volume of a contrast medium.

30. (Original) The kit according to claim 29 wherein the contrast medium comprises a radio-opaque non-ionic myelographic contrast medium.

31. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim 36 28 wherein said expandable device comprises a volume of a medium that is injectable at ambient temperatures and more viscous at body temperature.

32. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 36 28 wherein said expandable device ~~the contrast medium~~ includes a bioactive agent.

33. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 36 28 wherein the contrast medium includes a steroid.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim 36 34 wherein said tool ~~surgical device~~ comprises:

a cannulated scalpel having a side aperture proximal its distal end;

an elongate body housed within said cannulated scalpel and comprising two radially extendable arms constructed such that radially extending said arms causes them to extend outward through said side aperture and retracting said arms causes them to close.

36. (Currently amended) A kit for performing a procedure on a spine, the spine including an epidural space containing a thecal sac, the kit comprising:

an insertion member for accessing the epidural space;

an expandable device adapted to be inserted into the epidural space by the insertion member and expanded so as to compress a portion of the thecal sac and provide a safety zone within the epidural space; and

~~The kit according to claim 34 wherein said surgical device comprises a tool~~
including means for engaging the ligamentum flavum and means for resecting a section of the ligamentum flavum.

37. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim ~~36~~ 34 wherein said ~~tool~~ surgical device comprises:

a cannula having a side aperture proximal its distal end;
a barbed member coaxially received within said cannula; and
a cutting member received on said cannula.

38. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim ~~36~~ 34 wherein said ~~kit further surgical device~~ includes means for engaging a first anatomical structure and means for affixing said first anatomical structure to a second anatomical structure.

39. (Currently amended) The kit according to claim ~~36~~ 34 wherein said ~~kit further surgical device~~ includes means for engaging and retracting the ligamentum flavum and means for anchoring the retracted ligamentum flavum.